

Conwallis N Y Jan 24/95

J. Hon<sup>ble</sup> Dr Dawson, Principle of McGill University, Montreal

Dear Sir I think I have only seen you but once, ~~at~~ Although in consequence of Nova Scotia having been deprived of your valuable services in the educational department, a Society was formed in Halifax (under the auspices of a number of gentleman men) to continue the work which you left, which sent me to Boston for an interview with the Hon Horace Mann who must be regarded as the founder of our common schools. The last and only time I had the pleasure of seeing you I did with you and the Hon Samuel Chipman at Lyon's Hotel Kentville. You informed us "you was going to digly to investigate the phenomine of digly but with the Golden Gate of the Pacific of California. Yet as a geologist I sent by Dr J Hunt a large specimen of Calcedony after the Centennial Exhibition of 1876 Also after the Toronto Exhibition the Fortification Agates I sent to your Museum at Montreal. I received 2 Diplomas & 2 Medals for Building of Fire proof Magnesian Dolomite Under which the Independant coal of Europe is found (This is a guarantee for coal in Conwallis and Annapolis) I need not inform you of Dr J's riches (in its mines of the mixed Metals of Gold Silver and Copper) I have the honor to be the first person who has made known to the Mining Department of the existence of these metals in abundance in Nova Scotia I have had survey'd in Rights of Search upwards of 100 square miles 90 of which was in Colchester. Coal was the principle thing looked for. The silver deposits are Antimonial which is as you know found principally in Chile Mexico, Peru and Norway its percentage 76 to 84 Silver 16 to 24 Antimony My analysis gives for 50 tons \$ 801,090. with fine gold 23 Cent \$ 330 to the ton with a small percentage of Copper. A Syndicate is proposed to be formed at Kentville where one of the gentlemen propose to forward to McGill University specimens of the Ore it is a double sulphate when when roasted I think may largely increase the gold. By a Nitric acid with cup'd Silver 50 grs I got 137 dots of 23 Cent gold I sold to Mr J Silver for 27 dollars. The A R C have very kindly allowed me the use of their furnace to smelt my ore I presume I have now \$ 8000 of Antimonial Silver

McClelland Mine

P.S. This communication has been written simply to inform your honor what I have done to ascertain the kind of metals our ores contain. I have recently received a letter from a Friend in the N. E. New Hampshire saying he thinks he can succeed in inducing Capitalists to Syndicate one or 2 of these Mines but he is unprepared to answer the question proposed to him. He has a Brother (a Doctor) in Yarmouth I have written to him to come to Annapolis Feb and go to one of the Mines with me, as his brother informs that he can confide in his statement of facts. My Friend at Kentville thinks Capital can be raised by themselves which I think cannot, as I have the affair in my hand I prefer to keep it I have received and spent a large amount already and wish to do ample justice to those who have so far assisted me.

Wishing you many years of health and life  
I have the honor to be Yours Very Truly  
Geo J. McDonald

P.S. I have omitted to state that Antimonial Silver is reduced at a very low heat and when put into the Cupel the Muffle should be used to retain the metal confin'd to the top sides. I have employed at the Geological Bureau at Ottawa also McDonald at McGill College 2 days at the Geological School Boston with about 16 Analysts at Boston & York, Newark Phil. Chicago Utah Salt Lake and Lead. I took charge of the Montgomery Smelting & Refining Works of Beloit near Newark N. Y. - \$20 was the usual fee. You see My experience is pretty large in finding out the kind of metals we have in N. E.  
Please excuse the length of this letter

